

LEGAL SERVICES OF SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN

2007 LSSCM Office Locations: Ann Arbor, Bangor, Battle Creek, Jackson, Lansing and Monroe

LSSCM Service Area: Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ingham, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Shiawassee, and Washtenaw Counties
 Farmworker Legal Services—Statewide
 Michigan Poverty Law Program—Statewide

Service Population: 195,329 individuals living at or below 125% of the poverty level



In 2007, LSSCM provided direct services to nearly 10,000 eligible clients. In addition, LSSCM gave legal education presentations to approximately 2,900 persons, distributed over 20,000 legal education brochures, and engaged in over 300 “impact” projects involving appellate or significant cases, or community coalition projects that improved low-income client communities.

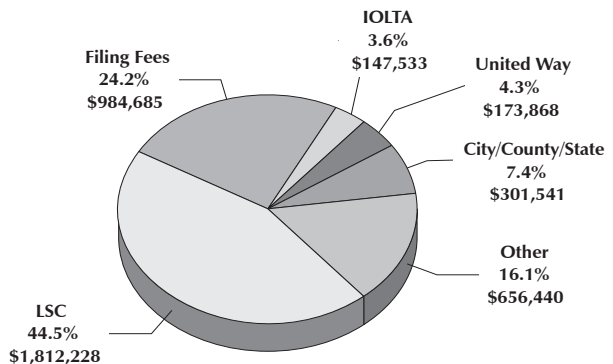
An elderly Washtenaw County couple were the victims of a “foreclosure rescue scam.” A local realtor offered to pay off their mortgage if they would contribute their \$25,000 life savings to a down payment on the new mortgage, which they did. He then rented them the home at twice the market rate, putting them even deeper in debt. LSSCM sued the realtor in Federal Court and also defended an eviction he brought, resulting in a settlement with title transferred back to the couple.

In 2007, LSSCM continued to utilize program-wide outcomes

measures. These measures track case outcomes in family, housing, public benefits, consumer, and all advice/brief service cases. The outcomes measure the results achieved for clients, as well as documenting cases that need further assistance but that the program was unable to serve due to a lack of resources. The data dramatically demonstrates the value of LSSCM’s services to clients. There was a positive client outcome in over 97% of the cases accepted for full representation but the data also showed that LSSCM was unable to accept over 2,500 meritorious priority cases due to lack of resources.

A woman returned a used car she had just purchased because it failed to operate properly. She was then sued by the creditor that had financed her purchase of the car. LSSCM represented her in the suit and asserted violations of loan and fraud laws by the lenders. The case settled with a dismissal of the creditor’s claims and a modest sum for the client to put toward a working automobile.

LSSCM Sources of Funding for 2007: \$ 4,076,295



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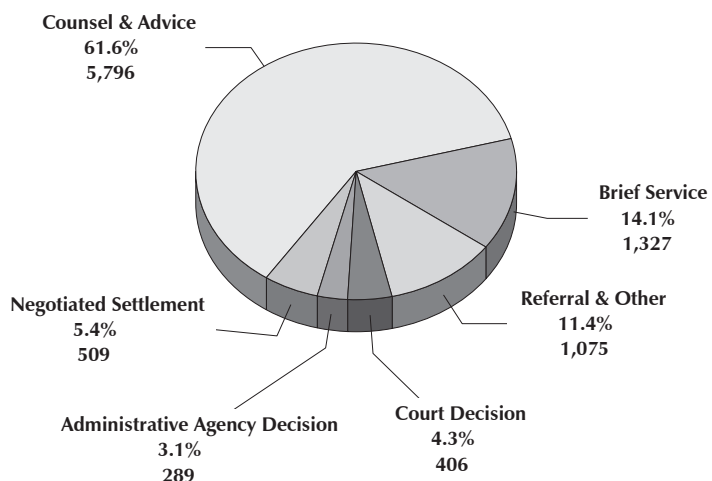
Community Outreach and Collaboration. In 2007, LSSCM’s community legal education presentations and law-related educational brochures reached thousands of low-income people. LSSCM also conducted extensive outreach and community education at community agencies and migrant labor camps throughout the state where outreach is essential to reach vulnerable populations. Specialized outreach is targeted to limited English proficiency populations, domestic violence survivors and the elderly. LSSCM continued to work closely with community partners including local courts, the private bar, housing providers, homeless shelters and services providers, domestic violence shelters, government agencies, and other human services agencies during 2007. LSSCM also collaborates with the University of Michigan Law School through direct referral and co-counsel arrangements with the General Clinic, Poverty Outreach Clinic and the Pediatric Advocacy Clinic.

Client Age	
18 & Under	80
19-59	7,447
60 & Over	1,868
Groups	7
Total	9,402

Pro Bono Support. LSSCM supports a very diverse pro bono program, which includes: thirteen county-based pro bono case panels, a domestic violence program staffed by volunteer law students, clinic and externship programs with three law schools, pro bono staffing at two court-based pro se centers, extensive support of statewide pro bono programs, the use of pro bono lawyers as trainers, and pro bono court reporting services. Cases vary from individual cases to complex multi-court impact litigation. In 2007, pro bono attorneys provided more than \$2.5 million in donated services through LSSCM’s PAI programs. LSSCM’s pro bono program also includes active Bar-supported financial donation programs in several communities, with contributions received through the Access to Justice Fund.

Client Ethnicity	
White	6,101
Black	2,003
Hispanic	947
Native American	93
Asian	74
Other	184
Total	9,402

LSSCM Types of Service in 2007



LSSCM Cases Closed in 2007: 9,402

